24th January 1933]

28th February for the publication of the electoral rolls, will the hon. Minister take the necessary steps to see that all the claims are disposed of before then and that what he has undertaken is carried out? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I would see that the necessary steps are taken to dispose of the claims and objections in time."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" When was the claim of the Raja of Mirzapuram made? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have no information."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Was it before or after the hon. the Chief Minister took office? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I think it was before I took office."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether the Government would act as in the case of the Kistna district if similar objections are received on similar occasions in respect of other districts? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" If any representation is made and the Government feel that it is worthy of consideration, they will consider."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Do the Government feel that the petitions filed by the Rajas of Mirzapuram and Chellapalli are reasonable and that they should interfere? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Were the representations of the Rajas of Chellapalli and Mirzapuram made simultaneously? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" No."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Whose was received earlier? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I cannot say."

Exemption of the Motor lorries owned by the Burmah-Shell Company from the levy of fees by the Local Boards and Municipalities.

* 469 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Government orders have been sent to local boards and municipalities directing them not to levy fees for the petrol and oil lorries owned by the Burmah-Shell Company running in the mufassal stations;

(*b*) whether such order is in conformity with the provisions of the several Acts relating thereto;

(*c*) what the special reasons are which actuated the Government in issuing such orders;

(*d*) how many such lorries are being run in this Presidency both by the Burmah-Shell Company and other petrol companies;

(*e*) what will be the total amount of loss which the local boards and municipalities incur on account of such exemption;

(*f*) whether they are private lorries or lorries owned by business firms for the purpose of conveying petrol from one place to another;

(*g*) whether such exemption applies or has been granted to the Standard Oil Company and other similar companies; and

(*h*) if not, the reasons why the exemption has not been granted to all petrol companies?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) G.Os.[a] No. 781, L. & M., dated 29th February 1932, and No. 1263, L. & M., dated 6th April 1932, are laid on the table.

(*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) The Government have no information.

(*g*) & (*h*) The orders quoted above are applicable to all private lorries.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know the reason why the Government thought fit to exempt lorries belonging to the Burmah-Shell Company from the payment of licence fees when they are making money out of them?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The Government made no distinction whatever between these lorries and other lorries. The Committee appointed to examine the incidence of taxation recommended that all private vehicles should be exempted."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Do the Government think that the lorries owned by the above company are private lorries and are not used in furtherance of their trade?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"As they are not plying for hire, they come under the category of private lorries."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"In view of the fact that these lorries use the roads more frequently than even lorries plying for hire, will the Government revise their order and direct them to pay the usual licence fee?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If they are hired lorries, certainly they would have to pay."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Are the lorries employed by other firms for carrying goods also exempt from this tax?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Yes, I think so."

Reintroduction of tolls for non-motor vehicles.

*470 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what percentage of the toll fees was collected from motor and non-motor vehicles respectively in each of the three years preceding the year in which the abolition of tolls came into effect; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question of reintroducing tolls for non-motor vehicles?

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[a] Pri ted as Appendix I on pages 252-253 infra.